

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 10336 231807Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 AID-05 /109 W  
-----030644 240700Z /11

R 231804Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1016  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USINT HAVANA  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E. O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PDIP, NI, MX  
SUBJECT: NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR OLUMJIME JALAOSO COMMENTS ON  
AFRICAN PROBLEMS

1. FOLLOWING HIS PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT  
LOPEZ PORTILLO ON JUNE 20, AMBASSADOR JALAOSO, WHO IS ALSO  
ACCREDITED IN WASHINGTON, DISCUSSED AFRICAN EVENTS WITH  
THE PRESS. TOUCHING ON THE THEME OF AFRICAN SOLUTIONS TO  
AFRICAN PROBLEMS HE SAID "WE HAVE TOLD THE GREAT  
POWERS TO LEAVE US TO SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS IN AN AFRICAN  
MANNER' BUT THEY ARE NOT ALLOWING US TO DO THAT AND YOU  
CAN ALREADY SEE WHAT IS OCCURRING."

2. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION AS TO WHETHER AFRICA COULD  
LIVE WITH IDEOLOGICAL PLURALISM, AMB. JALAOSO REPLIED,  
"I BELIEVE THAT IS A QUESTION THAT IS FREQUENTLY ASKED  
BECAUSE IT IS ASSUMED THAT AFRICANS CANNOT SOLVE THEIR OWN  
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PAGE 02 MEXICO 10336 231807Z

PROBLEMS. IT IS ALSO ASSUMED THAT WE ARE IMMATURE AND  
CANNOT DECIDE FOR OURSELVES HOW TO HANDLE OUR OWN COUNTRIES  
WITHOUT FALLING INTO ONE IDEOLOGICAL CAMP OR ANOTHER. THE  
MAJORITY OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES ARE NATIONALISTIC;  
THEY ARE INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING THEMSELVES; THEY ARE  
MOST INTERESTED IN RAISING THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF  
THEIR PEOPLE."

3. ON THE SUBJECT OF OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE HE SAID "THE COUNTRIES THAT CANNOT DEFEND THEMSELVES LOOK FOR OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE; BUT IT IS AN ACT OF THEIR OWN WILL. WE CANNOT SAY WHAT THEY SHOULD DO, BUT THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THEY ARE DIRECTED FROM MEXICO, HAVANA, WASHINGTON OR PARIS."
4. ON THE QUESTION OF ENDING COLONIALISM AND APARTHEID IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, HE NOTED THAT NIGERIA WAS ACTIVELY WORKING WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS TO SOLVE THESE PROBLEMS, BUT IF THSDY WERE NOT SUCCESSFUL THERE THEY WOULD FIGHT IF NECESSARY.
5. COMMENT: AMB. JALASO'S SUBSTANTIVE REMARKS TO THE PRESS AND THE COVERAGE THEY RECEIVED ARE NOT THE NORM FOR CREDENTIAL PRESENTATIONS IN MEXICO CITY. (HE WAS COVERED IN A CONSERVATIVE AS WELL AS A LEFTIST DAILY). THE COVERAGE HE RECEIVED IS PARTICULARLY RARE SINCE HIS REMARKS DID NOT TOUCH ON AREAS OF VITAL INTEREST TO MEXICO OR WESTERN HEMISPHERE ISSUES.
6. DECLASSIFY UPON RECEIPT. THOMPSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, AMBASSADORS, PRESS CONFERENCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780263-0665  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 8b7fa182-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2228289  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR OLUMJIME JALAO SO COMMENTS ON AFRICAN PROBLEMS  
**TAGS:** PDIP, NI, MX, XA, (JALAO SO, OLUMJIME)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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